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of the rule under the present practice in the Federal courts as modified by statute, rule of court, or judicial decision, citing the decision of our Federal courts and often in the text quoting at length from the opinions in elucidating the subject under discussion.

The work in the main is comprehensive, including chapters on masters, receivers, injunctions and appeals, though an occasional topic, as for example bills with a double aspect, is inadequately or at least meagerly treated, and it is disappointing to find no discussion of the important subject of jurisdiction as affected by local statutes.

An appendix of over four hundred pages containing the Federal Constitution, Judiciary Acts and various collections of court rules, increases the usefulness of the work, though it adds to the massive appearance of the two volumes in a manner hardly warranted by the scope and amount of the text.

The author has the fault common to most text writers of relying too much upon the statement of general principles and too little upon the analysis and discussion of decided cases. This fault, however, is partly atoned for by the use of a direct and lucid style which enables the reader to comprehend with ease the most difficult branches of the subject. Excellent though not unusual examples of this will be noted in his discussion of the obscure doctrines of discovery, negative pleas and answers in support of the plea. The reader will also note in connection with these topics the failure to cite certain important decisions of the Federal Courts with which he may be familiar. Whether such omissions are general throughout the work can only be determined by its continued use, but if such should prove to be the case the usefulness of the work to the practitioner would be impaired. Be this as it may, the logical arrangement, clear and reasonably comprehensive statement of rules and principles render the work a welcome guide in an unknown country, for which the thanks of the profession are due to the author.

A HANDBOOK OF THE CODE OF CIVIL PROCEDURE. By Charles C. Alden. New York: Baker, Voorhis & Company. 1901. pp. vi, 170. The preface to this small volume opens with the following statement: "The Code is a difficult volume to study; its numerous sections contain, in great proportion, details of practice and procedure which are wholly unnecessary to consider in order to obtain that general knowledge of its provisions, which is all that the student may hope or should seek to gain." If this were a correct statement of the extent and character of the knowledge of the Code which the student should acquire, there would be some excuse for this work; but even then, the purpose of the author might be more successfully accomplished by printing, in an analytical form, the full text of the sections which he deems important, the provisions of which he has attempted to state in a condensed form.

Most of the sections chosen by Professor Alden are statements, concisely made, of prior statutory enactments, or of rules of pleading and practice declared or suggested by decisions of the courts;

and any attempt, however carefully made, to condense these sections still further is sure to result in important omissions, and in incomplete, and, therefore, misleading statements. The truth of this assertion is manifest upon an examination of the volume under consideration, and many illustrations of it may be found even in the treatment of such important topics as "obtaining jurisdiction over defendant" (pp. 28 and 29) and "provisional remedies" (pp. 42 to 53). There is, however, a still more serious objection to this work and others of a similar character, in that they unintentionally emphasize a notion, altogether too prevalent, that the Code consists of a series of more or less arbitrary and largely unrelated enactments, which the practitioner is bound to observe for no better reason than that they have been put in force by the law-making power.

This is not the fact. With all its faults, our much-abused Code of Civil Procedure contains a system of pleading and practice based upon certain fundamental principles, and which is closely related to the systems that preceded it; and the student should gain such a knowledge of its provisions as will make plain these truths, and make him familiar with this system; a knowledge which will convince him that there is still an intimate and essential relation between adjective and substantive law, that the former is of no small importance, and that, for the student who intends to practice law, familiarity with the substantive law alone is a most inadequate preparation. It is, perhaps, needless to add that the most exhaustive study of the "Handbook" will fail to impart knowledge of this character.

A TREATISE ON CANADIAN COMPANY LAW. By W. J. White, Q. C., assisted by J. A. Ewing, B. C. L. Montreal: C. Theoret. 1901. pp. xxiii, 708.

This exposition of the law of corporations, as it exists in Canada, should prove interesting to the legal profession in the United States, for it exhibits the English common law under the influence of the best decisions in the various courts of this country. The task Mr. White has undertaken is to show the effect of the common law of corporations, of the Companies Act of the Dominion and the Acts of the various Provinces. Corporations whose objects are confined territorially to one Province incorporate under the Companies Act of that Province, while those whose business is to be carried on in several Provinces receive their existence from the Dominion legislature under the Companies Act of the Dominion. There is also a sphere over which the Dominion legislature has exclusive jurisdiction such as commerce, navigation and shipping, and companies whose objects come under these heads must be incorporated under the Companies Act of the Dominion. This combination of a general corporation law and various individual provincial laws gives American lawyers a hint of the probable result of a federal corporation law in the United States.

The plan adopted by Mr. White is to give in the text most of the leading cases and to show what they decide, rather than to lay down abstract principles. In fact, the author very seldom indulges